

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 08913 111823Z

47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

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O R 111737Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1342

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 8913

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, PFOR, CI

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT PINOCHET'S SEPTEMBER 11 ANNIVERSARY SPEECH

1. PRESIDENT PINOCHET'S 90- MINUTE SPEECH CELEBRATING THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 1973 MILITARY COUP WAS HARD-LINE BUT ANTICLIMACTIC. SHORT ON DETAILS, IT OFFERED VERY LITTLE NEW. WHAT CAME OUT MOST STRONGLY WAS PINOCHET'S BELIEF THAT A MILITARY GOVERNMENT WITH CIVILIAN COOPERATION WILL BE IN POWER IN CHILE FOR THE INDEFINITE FUTURE. ONLY SUCH A GOVERNMENT CAN DEFEND CHILE AGAINST THE "PERMANENT AGGRESSION" OF MARXISM, "TODAY AT THE SERVICE OF SOVIET IMPERIALISM." THE SPEECH WAS ESSENTIALLY A DEFENSE AND EXPLANATION OF THE COURSE CHOSEN BY THE GOC TO CONFRONT THIS CHALLENGE.

2. BEFORE THE SPEECH BEGAN, THE JUNA PROMULGATED THE THREE CONSTITUTIONAL ACTS - LONG EXPECTED: THE BASES OF THE NEW INSTITUTIONALISM, RIGHTS AND DUTIES, AND EMERGENCY REGIMES. PINOCHET GAVE TOO LITTLE DETAIL FOR THE EMBASSY TO COMMENT NOW, BUT FROM THE GENERAL CONTEXT OF THE SPEECH WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION THEY WILL GIVE CHILE'S DEMOCRATIC CRITICS LITTLE REASON TO CELEBRATE.

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PAGE 02 SANTIA 08913 111823Z

THERE WAS NO INDICATION OF IMPORTANT CHANGES IN ECONOMIC POLICY. THE

PRINCIPAL SURPRISE WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO RESTRICT
DRASTICALLY THE ACTIVITIES OF THE "RECESSED" DEMOCRATIC PARTIES.
IN FOREIGN POLICY PINOCHET EMPHASIZED THE STRENGTHENING OF RELATIONS
WITH SOUTHERN ZONE FRIENDS, AND SAID THAT RELATIONS WITH THE U.S.
ARE "ON A GOOD FOOTING." HE GAVE NO SIGN OF GREATER FLEXIBILITY
VIS-A-VIS THE UN ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

3. THE SPEECH REAFFIRMED THE HARD LINE. THE GOC WILL MOVE FORWARD
FIRMLY ON THE COURSE IT HAS CHOSEN, WITHOUT GIVING WAY TO FOREIGN
OR DOMESTIC PRESSURES FOR CHANGE. IT WAS NOTABLE THAT PINOCHET
SCARCELY MENTIONED THE JUNTA AND NAMED HIS JUNTA COLLEAGUES BY
NAME ONLY IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR INTERNATIONAL TRAVELS.

4. DETAILS AND ANALYSIS WILL FOLLOW.
POPPER

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NNN

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